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Meachum unfairly criticized by the 'lunatic right'

It is not easy to criticize Roy Meachum unfairly but James E. Keenan was up to it (Sept. 12).

In a lengthy letter ostensibly responding to Meachum's alleged "unusually inane diatribes" Mr. Keenan cites not a single word of any single column in support of his characterization. Instead, like others of the irrational right extreme he uses his letter for other political objectives, describing all who do not see the world through his contorting eyes as "leftists," "liberals" and even coup plotters.

Irrational hardly describes Mr. Keenan's own diatribes, like:

"Gone are the dreams of the leftist coup to install an American Stalin in the White House. Gone are the dreams of the Red Army marching in triumph down Pennsylvania Avenue. Gone is a future in which an American Societ Republic would join the USSR in imposing Marxism-Leninism on the world."

Dream? This is Mr. Keenan's nightmare, without any foundation at all, but then those who think like he does do not contaminate what they say with fact or reality. The horror he invents never existed, never was in any Meachum column I read, never was in any Democratic mind. What he writes is insane and disgraceful.

It also reflects a bankruptcy of ideas if he cannot oppose what he does not agree with without adopting the method and thought of "Mein Kampf."

The Keenan method, of saying one thing and talking of anything but that to argue political preconceptions, is SOP for the lunatic right. And it is crazy.

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